REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application, in view of the present amendment and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 11 and 12 are amended by the present amendment.

Claim amendments find support in the specification, at least, on page 12, lines 9-13, thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,401,150 to Roberts et al. (hereinafter "Roberts") in view of Reilly (U.S. Patent No. 6,401,150).

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Claims 1, 3, 11, and 12 were amended by the Applicant's entered September 14, 2005 response. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Before turning to the outstanding prior art rejections, it is believed that a brief review of the present invention would be helpful.

In this regard, the present invention describes a print job management apparatus, method, and recording medium. In a non-limiting example, shown in Fig. 2, the print job management unit 20 includes a job controller 24 and a queue 26. When a print job is received the job controller 24 determines if the print job is interactive or non-interactive. If the job is interactive only the job information data is stored in the queue 26, while if the job is non-interactive the job information data along with the print data is placed in the queue 26. Further, the stacking order of the jobs in the queue 26 is determined by the job controller 24 based on if the job is interactive or non-interactive.

Addressing now the rejection of Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,401,150 to <u>Roberts</u> in view of <u>Reilly</u>, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, in part,

> a print job input unit that stacks interactive print job data and non-interactive print job data into the buffer, the interactive print job data consisting of a predetermined type of data in a specific form without representing all drawing details of the print job, the non-interactive print job data including print data representing all drawing details of the print job...
>
> to carry out interactive printing at a specific timing determined by stacking condition of the predetermined type of data in the buffer...
>
> to carry out non-interactive printing at a specific timing determined by stacking condition of the non-interactive print job data in the buffer.

Claims 11 and 12 include similar features.

<u>Roberts</u> describes a method for printing an automatically assembling electronic document. Further, <u>Roberts</u> describes determining the format of the document that is associated with a print request, whether it be an application document file or a printer command file.[1] However, <u>Roberts</u> does not describe or suggest stacking interactive and non-interactive print job data into a buffer and carrying out interactive and non-interactive printing at a specific timing determined by a stacking condition of the data in the buffer.

The outstanding Office Action states on page 3 beginning on line 6 that "Roberts does not explicitly disclose the print job management apparatus comprising...stacks only a predetermined type of data being set to the interactive print job in a specific form without representing all drawing details of the print job."

In other words, as noted in the outstanding Office Action <u>Roberts</u> does not describe the above noted features of independent Claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 and similarly independent Claims 11 and 12 patentably distinguish over <u>Roberts</u>.

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[1] <u>Roberts</u>, Col 8, lines 8-18.

Reilly describes a centralized queue for a network printing system. Further, Reilly describes that only the job information is transmitted and stored in the print queue while the actual job data remains at the host computer.[2] However, Reilly does not describe stacking non-interactive print data in the buffer, where the non-interactive print job data includes print data representing all drawing details of the print job.
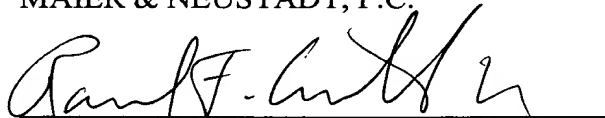
In other words, Reilly describes storing job information without print data in the print queue but does not describe storing both interactive (no print data) and non-interactive (with print data) in the same buffer (queue) and carrying out the corresponding printing at a specific timing determined by stacking condition. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 and similarly independent Claims 11 and 12 patentably distinguish over Reilly.

Further, with respect to the dependent claims, in light of the above discussion Applicant respectfully submits that those claims also distinguish over the applied art as Claim 1 and similarly independent Claims 11 and 12 patentably distinguish over Roberts and Reilly.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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[2] Reilly, Col. 3, lines 6-9.

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